

Maricopa County Community Services Commission
Maricopa County Human Services Department
234 N. Central, 3rd Floor Arizona Conference Room
Phoenix, Arizona 85004
Monday, August 24, 2009
6:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Members Present:

City of Glendale - Councilman Steve Frate
City of Tolleson – Councilwoman Kathie Farr
Low Income Representative - Glenn Cuzzort
Valley of the Sun United Way – Amy Schwabenlender
The Salvation Army – David Clitheroe

City of Avondale – Frank Scott
St. Vincent de Paul – Clotilde Penalosa
Sister Barbara Webster
Chicanos Por La Causa - Terri Cruz
SRP- Bonnie Temme

Presenters/Staff/Guests Present:

Staff:

Eileen Hartnett
Frances Delgado
Anthony Lucio

Guests:

Sylvia Sheffield, City of Avondale
Mary Hutchinson, TCAA
Joy McClain, City of Tolleson
Shawna Fellenz – Gilbert/Chandler CAP

- 1. Call to Order** The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Vice Chair Amy Schwabenlender.
- 2. Roll Call** Frances Delgado called roll and a quorum was established.
- 3. Opening Prayer** Frank Scott led the prayer.
- 4. Pledge of Allegiance** Kathy Farr led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 5. Approval of Minutes** Amy Schwabenlender asked for approval of the July 27, 2009 meeting minutes: Frank Scott made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Steve Frate seconded the motion. All were in favor and the minutes were accepted as presented.
- 6. Director's Report** Eileen Hartnett provided the Director's Report for Marge Leyvas. Eileen shared the following:

The Grant Facilitator position within the Community Services Division has been filled. Erik Miller will begin on September 8, 2009.

The CSD is in the process of hiring a new case manager for the 1MC4 service area formally known as El Mirage. The process will probably take about a month therefore; staff within the division will continue to take applications for emergency services and weatherization in that area.

In addition, the CSD staff conducted a LIHEAP intake event at the El Mirage Elementary School on August 4, 2009. This event was to take applications for utility assistance for the 1MC4 service area.

Eileen Hartnett and Yvonne Seel visited with the Sun City Tax Payer Associations to provide information about the Weatherization Program. There were over 30

different community businesses and organizations represented to hear about the weatherization program.

The State of Arizona, DES will be conducting a Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) monitoring visit in January of 2010. DES has shared with us the internal monitoring tool and we are currently doing a self-assessment to be prepared for the monitoring session.

The State of Arizona, Auditor General's Office is currently conducting an audit of the LIHEAP program. The Program audit was begun last week, and so far has not indicated any issues. The Fiscal audit will begin next month.

CSD will be amending the current CAP contracts to increase their dollar amounts. The increase in funds is due to the increased CSBG dollars from the stimulus (ARRA) funds.

This is the Department's final year of the 2-year option to amendment contracts for the Community Action Program, Emergency Shelter Grant, and Weatherization therefore; we will be working on Request for Proposals for FY 2011.

The contract with the Department of Commerce, Energy Office for Federal DOE ARRA funds is fully executed, and the department is still in the ramp-up phase of the program. This entails recruitment and training of internal staff to administer and support the weatherization program and hopes to complete Phase 1 by the end of September. There will be seven weatherization positions posted internal to Maricopa County employees within the next week. Three of the positions will be regular positions and the remainders are contract positions.

Due to the new Weatherization Unit that will be housed at the downtown office, some CSD staff will be moving to the Maricopa County West Valley Career Center. The move should begin in October 2009.

Eileen indicated that she will be attending the National Community Action Partnership Conference being held in Philadelphia. The topics of discussion will be CSBG and Weatherization in addition to receiving updates about the programs from around the county.

Anthony Lucio shared that he attended the Homeless Connect Program in the City of Glendale in August. The Vineyard Church provided the venue and many vendors attended to provide services and resources to the homeless individual and families. The next "Homeless Connect" will be on September 11, 2009.

7. Board Remarks

Amy Schwabenlender indicated that Clotilde Penalosa, our commission member from St. Vincent de Paul, is resigning from the commission and this will be her last meeting. The commission thanked her for her service to the commission and wished her well with a round of applause.

Councilman Steve Frate reported on a Homeless Connect event that was held in Glendale. More than two hundred bus passes were distributed and 65 individuals received haircuts, among many other services. Amy Schwabenlender indicated the events began in Tempe in 2007, and the program keeps expanding. Changing demographics are apparent as there are more single mothers, more and younger military vets showing up, and more people indicating they are about to be evicted.

Bonnie Temme indicated that on July 13, 2009 SRP announced a price adjustment. There have been many articles in the newspaper about the price adjustment and SRP is taking written comments very seriously. Bonnie indicated that Marge Leyvas, as the President of Arizona Community Action Association and Cynthia Zwick, Director of the Community Action Agency are encouraged to speak to the SRP board to represent the low-income population. There will be an increase to the Discount Program, from \$15 to \$17.

8. Call to the Public

Sylvia Sheffield, Director of the Avondale CAP, indicated that they have has had to make adjustments on how they make appointments for those individuals that are seeking emergency assistance. Avondale CAP has seen an increase in the number of individuals/families seeking assistance and does not have enough case managers to meet the demand.

Shawna Fellenz introduced herself as the new Director of the Chandler/Gilbert Community Action Program.

Mary Hutchinson, Director of Tempe CAP, indicated they have over 40 people on the waiting list for Weatherization and it continues to grow. Also, there is a lot of interest in the Weatherization Program especially within the senior community.

Anthony Lucio indicated that the Rock-n-Roll Paint-A-Thon event on October 24, 2009 is still accepting application for elderly, disabled and low-income individuals within Maricopa County to have their house painted. Mr. Lucio provided a handout with further information.

11. Adjournment

Vice Chair Amy Schwabenlender called for a motion to adjourn. Steve Frate made a motion to adjourn. Bonnie Temme seconded. The meeting was adjourned.